

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for creating a pre-press proof with a thermal mark comprising:
 - creating a pre-press proof having an image formed thereon;
 - embossing the surface of said pre-press proof by laminating said pre-press proof with an embossing belt having an embossing mark to form a thermal mark thereon; and
 - forming a pre-press proof with a thermal mark.
2. A pre-press proof with a thermal mark with a resolution of between 1000 dpi and 4000 dpi formed by the method of claim 1.
3. A pre-press proof with a thermal mark with a resolution of between 1200 dpi and 3600 dpi formed by the method of claim 1.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein said pre-press proof comprises a monochrome image.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein said pre-press proof comprises a multi-colored image.
6. The method of claim 1 where in the image is an inkjet generated image.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein said pre-press proof is a dual sided pre-press proof.
8. A dual sided pre-press proof having a thermal mark on both sides of said dual sided pre-press proof by the method of claim 1.
9. A method for creating a pre-press proof with a thermal mark comprising:

creating a pre-press proof having an image formed thereon; overlaying and laminating said pre-press proof with a plastic cover sheet;

forming a thermal mark on the surface of said plastic cover sheet by laminating with an embossing belt having an embossing mark to form a thermal mark thereon; and

forming a pre-press proof with a thermal mark.

10. A pre-press proof with a thermal mark with a resolution of between 1000 dpi and 4000 dpi formed by the method of claim 9.

11. A pre-press proof with a thermal mark with a resolution of between 1200 dpi and 3600 dpi formed by the method of claim 9.

12. The method of claim 9 wherein said pre-press proof comprises a monochrome image.

13. The method of claim 9 wherein said pre-press proof comprises a multi-colored image.

14. The method of claim 9 where in the image is an inkjet generated image.

15. The method of claim 9 wherein said plastic cover sheet has a thickness between 1 and 75 microns.

16. The method of claim 9 wherein said pre-press proof is a dual sided pre-press proof.

17. A dual sided pre-press proof having a thermal mark on both sides of said dual sided pre-press proof by the method of claim 9.

18. A method for creating a pre-press proof with a thermal mark comprising:

creating an imaged receiver sheet having a support layer and a print layer having an image formed on said print layer;

laminating said imaged receiver sheet to a sheet of receiver stock;

forming a thermal mark on the surface of said pre-press proof by laminating said glossy pre-press proof with an embossing belt having an embossing mark to create a thermal mark thereon;

removing said support layer creating a pre-press proof; and forming a pre-press proof with a thermal mark.

19. A pre-press proof with a thermal mark with a resolution of between 1000 dpi and 4000 dpi formed by the method of claim 18.

20. A pre-press proof with a thermal mark with a resolution of between 1200 dpi and 3600 dpi formed by the method of claim 18.

21. The method of claim 18 wherein said pre-press proof comprises a monochrome image.

22. The method of claim 18 wherein said pre-press proof comprises a multi-colored image.

23. The method of claim 18 where in the image is an inkjet generated image.

24. The method of claim 18, wherein said glossing sheet comprises a sheet of plastic or a recycled support layer.

25. The method of claim 18 wherein said print layer has a thickness between 1 and 75 microns.

26. An embossed dual sided pre-press proof having both sides of said embossed dual sided pre-press proof embossed generated by the method of claim 18.

27. A method for creating a pre-press proof with a thermal mark comprising:

laminating a pre-laminate sheet consisting of a first print layer, and a first support layer to a receiver stock;

removing the first support layer forming a pre-laminated receiver stock;

creating an imaged receiver sheet with a second support layer and a second print layer having an image formed on said second print layer;

laminating said imaged receiver sheet to said pre-laminated receiver stock;

embossing the pre-press proof using an embossing belt with an image to form a thermal mark; and

removing said second support layer forming a pre-press proof with a thermal mark.

28. A pre-press proof with a thermal mark with a resolution of between 1000 dpi and 4000 dpi formed by the method of claim 27.

29. A pre-press proof with a thermal mark with a resolution of between 1200 dpi and 3600 dpi formed by the method of claim 27.

30. The method of claim 27 wherein said pre-press proof comprises a monochrome image.

31. The method of claim 27 wherein said pre-press proof comprises a multi-colored image.

32. The method of claim 27 where in the image is an inkjet generated image.

33. The method of claim 27 wherein said print layer has a thickness between 1 and 75 microns.

34. The method of claim 27, wherein said first support layer comprises a support base and release layer.

35. The method of claim 27, wherein said second support layer comprises a support base and release layer.

36. The method of claim 27, wherein said second support layer further comprises an aluminized layer.

37. A dual sided pre-press proof having a thermal mark on both sides of said dual sided pre-press proof generated by the method of claim 27.

38. A laminator for forming a pre-press proof with a thermal mark having an identifying mark comprising:

 a first roller located on a first side of a media passage;
 a second roller located on a second side of said media passage so as to oppose said first roller, wherein a nip portion is defined between said first and second rollers so as to apply pressure to media in said media passage which passes through said nip portion;

 wherein at least one of said first and second rollers is a solid roller and at least one embossing belt; and

 wherein said embossing belt creates a thermal mark on a pre press proof upon passing of said pre-press proof through said laminator.

39. The laminator of claim 38, wherein said identifying mark is a member of the group: a thermal mark, a pressure mark, and combinations thereof.

40. The laminator according to claim 38, wherein at least one of said rollers contains a heater element.

41. The laminator of claim 38, wherein said at least one embossing belt comprises a polyamide.

42. The laminator of claim 41, wherein said polyamide consists of a member of the group: nylon 6, 6, and nylon 6, 10 and combinations thereof.

43. The laminator of claim 38, wherein said second roller further comprises a heater element.

44. The laminator of claim 38, further comprising a second endless belt and wherein said second endless belt is an embossing belt.

45. The laminator of claim 38, wherein said embossing belt consists of a material selected from the group: polyamides, fluropolymers, polyisocyanates, polyphenylene sulfides, polycarbonates, copolymers of any of the foregoing, and combinations thereof.

46. A belt for a laminator with an embossing belt comprises at least one figure, number, or character and combinations thereof disposed thereon.

47. An embossed dual sided pre-press proof having both sides of said embossed dual sided pre-press proof embossed generated by the method of claim 38.

48. A pre-press proof with a thermal mark with a resolution of between 1000 dpi and 4000 dpi formed by the method of claim 38.

49. A pre-press proof with a thermal mark with a resolution of between 1200 dpi and 3600 dpi formed by the method of claim 38.

50. The method of claim 38 wherein said pre-press proof comprises a monochrome image.

51. The method of claim 38 wherein said pre-press proof comprises a multi-colored image.

52. The method of claim 38 where in said pre-press proof is an inkjet generated pre-press proof.